

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 40-55 were pending, under consideration and subjected to examination in the Office Action. Appropriate claims have been amended, canceled and/or added (without prejudice or disclaimer) in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is present interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 40, 42-44, 46-48, 50-52, 54 and 55-60 will be pending for further consideration and examination in the application.

ALL REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC '102 AND '103 - TRAVERSED

All 35 USC rejections (i.e., the 35 USC '102 rejection of claims 40, 44, 48 and 52 as being anticipated by Mankovitz (U.S. Patent 5,541,738); and, the 35 USC '103 rejection of claims 41-43, 45-47, 49-51 and 53-55 as being unpatentable over Mankovitz (U.S. Patent 5,541,738) in view of Arai et al. (U.S. Patent 5,576,758)) are respectfully traversed.

All descriptions of Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention, and all descriptions and rebuttal arguments regarding the applied prior art, as previously submitted by Applicant in any form, are repeated and incorporated hereat by reference. Further, all Office Action statements regarding the prior art rejections are

respectfully traversed. As additional arguments, Applicant respectfully submits the following.

Applicant's present invention is directed to a device and method for displaying information concerning an operation state of the receiving device ("IRD" in the embodiment) and recording reproduction device ("VTR" in the embodiment) in the same form as described in page 4, lines 6 to 23 of the English specification.

More specifically describing Applicant's present features with reference to Fig. 1, the operations states of VTR 100 and ISD IRD 200 can be displayed both by the analog OSD circuit 15 and digital OSD circuit 2032 (see Fig. 3). That is, in a case of the analog OSD circuit 15 of the VTR 100 being used for displaying a screen to a user, the analog OSD circuit 15 can display both the operation states of the VTR 100 itself and IRD 200, and in a case of the digital OSD circuit 2032 of the IRD 200 being used for displaying a screen to a user, the digital OSD circuit 2032 can display both the operation states of the IRD 200 itself and VTR 100 as described from page 13, line 17 to page 14, line 19.

The above feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited prior art. In order to clearly distinguish the present invention from the cited prior arts Mankovitz and Arai et al., Applicant's independent claims 40, 44, 48, and 52 have been clarified to incorporate limitations similar to those of claims 41, 45, 49, and 53 respectively and to incorporate the limitation "such that the operation states are displayed with images having substantially common formatting to one another on the display unit" similar to that set forth in allowed claim 1 of US patent No. 6,763,174. Claims 41, 45, 49, and 53 are cancelled. Added independent claim 60 is similar to a combination of independent claim 40 and dependent claim 56, with the limitation

"such that the operation states are displayed with images having substantially common formatting to one another on the display unit" being excluded from independent claim 60.

More particularly, regarding distinguishing features/limitations, in using independent claim 40 as an example, such claim recites (in relevant part): "A recording and reproducing apparatus to record and reproduce a signal to and from a recording medium, comprising: ...wherein when the indication of the information relative to the receiving device is selected from the selection information outputted for use by the display unit, the information relative to the receiving device, which is information including an operation state of the receiving device, obtained from the receiving device is output for use by the display unit, and when the indication of the information relative to the recording and reproducing device is selected from the selection information, the information relative to the recording and reproducing device, which is information indicating an operation state of the recording and reproducing device, obtained from the recording and reproducing device is output for use by the display unit, such that the operation states are displayed with images having substantially common formatting to one another on the display unit."

Independent claims 44, 48 and 52 have similar or analogous features/limitations. It is respectfully submitted that the applied references (whether taken individually, or in combination) would not have disclosed or suggested such features/limitations.

Regarding added dependent claims 56-59, such claims are even more specific. That is, using claim 56 as an example, such claim recites (in relevant part):

"wherein when the indication of the information relative to the receiving device is selected from the selection information outputted for use by the display unit, the information relative to the receiving device, which is information including an operation state of the receiving device, obtained from the receiving device is incorporated into an on-screen-display (OSD) image by a first OSD circuit in the recording and reproducing device and is output for use by the display unit, and when the indication of the information relative to the recording and reproducing device is selected from the selection information, the information relative to the recording and reproducing device, which is information indicating an operation state of the recording and reproducing device, obtained from the recording and reproducing device is incorporated into an on-screen-display (OSD) image by a second OSD circuit in the receiving device and is output for use by the display unit, such that the operation states are displayed with images having substantially common formatting to one another on the display unit. Again, it is respectfully submitted that the applied references (whether taken individually, or in combination) would not have disclosed or suggested such features/limitations.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a '102 anticipatory-type rejection or '103 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '102 and '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of the rejected claims, are respectfully requested.

INVENTORSHIP

Regarding the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 as mentioned in the item 4 in respect of the 35 USC 103(a) rejection, the present invention has claimed the priorities of two Japanese Patent applications Nos. 09-55869 filed on March 11, 1997 and 09-067715 filed on March 21, 1997 under Paris convention, where the Japanese Patent application No. 09-55869 corresponds to the embodiments illustrated in Figs. 16 to 23 of the present US patent application and the Japanese Patent application No. 09-067715 corresponds to the embodiments illustrated in Figs. 1 to 15. The present pending claims in this application cover the embodiments illustrated in Figs. 1 to 15, which had been invented by inventors Ohara, Saito, Ohkouchi, and Okamoto.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any

objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, i.e., Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Authorization is herein given to charge any shortage in the fees, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 500.36100CX2) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Based upon all of the foregoing, allowance of all presently-pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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